Application No.: 10/038,640

Amendment and Response dated March 14, 2006 Reply to Office Action of November 14, 2005

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Remarks/Arguments:

Introduction

Claims 1-3, 5-8, 14, 15, 17, 25 and 52-93 were pending. Claims 76-93 are allowed. Claims 6, 8, 54, 55 and 58 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Accordingly, claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 8. Claim 8 has been canceled. Claim 6 has been amended to include the subject matter of claims 1 and 5. Claim 5 has been canceled. Claims 25 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 54. Claim 54 has been canceled. Claims 70 and 71 have been canceled.

Claims 7 and 55 have been amended for antecedent basis consistent with the above amendments.

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that current pending claims 1-3, 6, 7,14, 15, 17, 25, 52, 53, 55-69 and 72-93 are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(b) and 103(a) are respectfully requested.

<u>Summary</u>

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 1, 6, 25, 76 and 84, and all claims dependent therefrom, are patentably distinct. This application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Favorable action thereon is therefore respectfully solicited.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments concerning the above, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number

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given below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees associated with this communication, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 08-2461. Such authorization includes authorization to charge fees for extensions of time, if any, under 37 C.F.R § 1.17 and also should be treated as a constructive petition for an extension of time in this reply or any future reply pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136.

Respectfully submitted,

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